

Animal Permit Instructions

City of Asheville

Animal Permit Requirements

Review the [Animal Control ordinance here](#). If you have any questions, please call Animal Services at (828) 259-5872

1. The City of Asheville requires all residents to obtain a permit for any household keeping seven or more animals. Small domesticated rodents, small birds, amphibians, fish and reptiles are not included in this requirement. A permit is also required for residents wishing to keep bees, fowl or livestock including goats, horses, ponies and exotic pets.
2. It is important to complete the application in its entirety. Check all permit types that apply. For example, if you wish to keep one goat, two ducks and four dogs, you would be required to obtain three permits (livestock, fowl and multiple animal as the total exceeds six). There is a fee of \$25 for each Permit.
3. Upon receipt of the application, Animal Services staff will:
 - Call to arrange an inspection to evaluate the furnishings and healthful condition provided for the proposed animal(s). This generally does not apply to bees.
 - Animal Services staff will determine the potential need to conduct possible interviews with neighbors and other interested parties in an effort to verify the keeping of said animal(s) does not constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of other persons residing near the property.
 - A Permit will be issued by the Animal Control Administrator based on finding the animal(s) can be kept humanely and in such number and in such manner as not to constitute a threat to the health, safety or welfare of other persons residing near the property.
4. Permits must be renewed annually.
5. With the exception of bee and fowl permits, continuation inspections may be required annually (on a case-by-case basis).
6. Please note the following requirements:
 - A permit may be revoked at any time for non-compliance for any violation of its terms or any violation of applicable laws protecting or regulating animals or property/zoning.
 - Should a permit be revoked, the animal(s) in violation must be removed from the premises by the owner within 7 days.
 - Livestock and bees may not be kept within 100 feet of any household other than that of the owner at any time.

- The keeping of a cage or pen constructed and used for the purpose of restraining animals or fowl within ten feet of the outer limits of the lot upon which the cage or pen is situated; provided, however, this setback requirement shall not be applicable where the placing of the cage or pen within the ten-foot area does not result in locating the cage or pen within 50 feet of the nearest household occupied by persons other than the owner or keeper of the cage or pen. (Section 3-9 (a)(3)). Cages or pens must have both sides and tops for compliance.
- Roosters are prohibited.
- Temporary permits should be issued for the purpose of keeping goats for purposes of brush clearance and not regular ownership.